frame feature based on image data; and

a frame feature value storing unit for storing said frame feature value corresponding to said image data, the frame feature value storing unit being connected to said frame feature value generating unit.

2. (Twice Amended) The image retrieval information storing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

an index information generating unit for determining a featured frame among said image data and for generating index information which is positional information of said featured frame; and

an index information storing unit for storing said index information, the index information storing unit being connected to said index information generating unit.

15. (Twice Amended) An image retrieving apparatus, comprising:

an index information generating unit for receiving a frame feature value which is a numerical representation of a frame feature corresponding to a frame of image data, for determining a featured frame among said image data based on said frame feature value in accordance with a request for extracting a featured frame, and for generating index information which is positional information of said featured frame; and

a image retrieval executing unit connected to said index information generating unit, for transmitting said request for extracting said featured frame to said index information generating unit, for receiving said index information from said index information generating unit, for receiving said image data from an

external source, and for outputting a frame specified based on said index information.

16. (Twice Amended) The image retrieving apparatus according to claim 15, wherein said image retrieval executing unit is connected to said index information generating unit, transmitting said request for extracting a featured frame to said index information generating unit, receiving said index information from said index information generating unit, and also receiving said image data and index information from an external source, and outputting a frame specified based on said index information received from said index information generating unit or said index information from said external source.

33. (Amended) An image retrieval information managing apparatus, comprising:

a frame feature value reading unit for reading one or more frame feature values which are numerical representations of frame feature corresponding to one or more frames of image data and which are included in an image retrieval information; and

a frame feature value managing unit, connected to said frame feature value reading unit, for managing said frame feature values in a form which can be used for image retrieval.